2025 ELECTIONS

William McGonigle, Precinct 3

February 1, 2025 . 9:09 PM — 3 min read

— How many years have you lived in Winchester?

7.5

— Please describe your professional background and education.

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B.S. in Foreign Policy (Georgetown University School of Foreign Service)

J.D. (George Washington Law School)

I've been a teacher, dishwasher, bouncer, factory worker, and more, but since 2012 I've been a litigator and a trial lawyer. I started my practice in a large, international firm and now work in a boutique where I handle everything from commercial litigation to whistleblower claims to municipal law.

— What Winchester town positions (appointed or elected) have you held, and for how long? What volunteer roles have you done that made a difference in Winchester?

Town Meeting: 2022-Present

Zoning Board of Appeals: 2022-2023

Select Board: 2024-Present

Other Roles: Cub Scout Den Leader, FAN Member

— Why should I vote for you?

In all of my roles, I have endeavored to understand all aspects of a question and find an answer that not only solves the immediate issue but also protects our long-term interests. This is incredibly important as we must juggle our financial position with the needs of our town services, schools, and infrastructure. I take great effort to speak to residents and understand their perspectives. Once prepared, I have not shied away from sharing my learnings with Town Meeting, both at the microphone and during informal caucus, to assist in a constructive and efficient discussion and go

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Town Meeting candidate-specific questions

— What specific methods will you use to gather and represent your constituents' perspectives on issues that come before Town Meeting?

Nothing is more effective than getting out and talking to people—something I have no problem doing. Be it when walking my kids to Lincoln for drop-off, joining in the Town Meeting Member Association's forums, running errands or grabbing dinner downtown, or anywhere else, I always look to create opportunities to share what is happening with our Town with anyone I talk to and then try to get their feedback. This has only increased since being elected to the Select Board, and rarely does a day go by where I'm not reaching out for or receiving constituents' perspectives on any number of issues.

— Transparency and communication are vital in representative government. What steps will you take to keep your constituents informed about Town Meeting decisions and to explain your voting rationale?

I am an open book and have never held back on explaining the rationale behind not only my perspective on an issue but also any other perspective that I competently understand. When discussions have occurred in public forums—at Town Meeting, Select Board Meetings, or otherwise—I've taken efforts to share the WinCam recordings so people can see and hear firsthand what is being said and done. Finally, when large issues start to arise—such as the recent vote on the CPA—I proactively reach out to friends, neighbors, and constituents through direct conversation and email to make sure everyone I can help is sufficiently informed before a decision is made.

— Town Meeting decides three major things: It sets the salaries for the elected officials, votes to appropriate money to run the town, and the town's local statutes, which are called by-laws. How do you plan to

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evaluate and make decisions on budgetary allocations to ensure fiscal responsibility while meeting the town's needs?

As a member of the Select Board, this is a constant discussion. I am regularly updated by the Town Manager and Comptroller about our financial position. In addition, I am in frequent discussion with School Committee members about their needs, which consist of a large percentage of our budget. As part of these efforts, I have participated in "budget summits" that bring together the Select Board, Town Manager, School Committee, Superintendent, Finance Committee, and Capital Committee in an effort to create a wholistic approach to our fiscal planning. Consequently, by the time the warrant is published for Town Meeting, I have already been analyzing and discussing our budget for months on end and can bring and share that experience and education to Town Meeting.

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2025 ELECTIONS

Write-in votes, Winchester election results now final

NEWS

Newcomers win spots on Winchester Select Board, Committee

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Election 2025 is now over. The results from the March 22 townwide elections have been certified by the Town Clerk's office. Town Clerk MaryEllen Marshall released the final numbers March 27, with 17.3% of Winchester residents casting a vote in the election, or 2,951 votes, out of

NELL ESCOBAR COAKLEY | STAFF WRITER
March 27, 2025

It was the perfect Election Day — warm and sunny, with a steady stream of residents going into Winchester High School to cast their ballots. Preliminary results for the March 22 townwide election show 17.2 % of residents voted on Saturday. That's 2,933 votes cast, out of the town'

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March 22, 2025

NEWS

Winchester Planning Board write-ins emerge ahead of Saturday election

Winchester voters head to the polls Saturday for municipal elections featuring contested races for Select Board and School Committee alongside an unexpected development — two write-in candidates vying for a Planning Board seat that initially have no contenders on the ballot. The March 22 election will take place at Winchester High

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March 21, 2025

NEWS

Philip Frattaroli to be Winchester's 12th town moderator since 1915

It's a foregone conclusion. Philip Frattaroli will be Winchester's next town moderator. Sure, the townwide election is just days away, but Frattaroli is running unopposed for the seat being vacated by Heather von Mering, who has been in the role since March 2020. "I decided to take it

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March 20, 2025

Latest

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EVENTS

Celebrate Women's History Month with Girls Leading Change

The following was submitted by the Network for Social Justice: To mark Women's History Month and International Women's Day in 2026, the Network for Social Justice is collaborating with club leaders from Winchester High School and members of the Community Health team from La Colaborativa in Chelsea and

March 4, 2026

NEWS

Winchester School Committee candidates bring contrasting backgrounds to Thursday forum

Two candidates for Winchester's School Committee will face voters at a forum as the district navigates a new literacy curriculum, budget pressures and questions about student mental health. Heather von Mering and John Bellaire are competing for an open seat on the School Committee, which oversees a budget von

WILL DOWD | STAFF WRITER

March 4, 2026

FEATURES

'Chicago: Teen Edition' dances onto the Winchester High School stage

By Talia Ho | Correspondent Fame. Fortune. And all that jazz. This spring, Winchester

EVENTS

Ripley Chapel in Winchester presents 'Syldason: You Are Welcome Here'

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The following was submitted by the Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church: On

High School presents “Chicago: Teen Edition,” a bold musical that explores celebrity culture, media manipulation, and the cost of ambition. This iconic production is set in the 1920s. Performances will take place on March 13 and 14

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS
March 4, 2026

Friday, March 13, beginning at 7:30 p.m., live in-person and live streamed from the stunning Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church, Winchester, 21 Church St., join in with Syldason, a duo concert featuring Sylvie Zakarian,

March 4, 2026

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